

April-May 2003

8th U.S. Army's

# ROK Steady

Premiere Issue



**Korean War Memorial visit**

**Reunion in Korea**

**New Horizons**

**2nd Bde. tests their skills**

# ROK Steady

The only peninsula-wide magazine for the Eighth U.S. Army community

April-May 2003  
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## Cover

A stainless steel statue at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., is just one of the many likenesses that include 14 Army soldiers, three Marines, a Navy Medic and an Air Force Forward Air Observer that stands in remembrance of those who fought in the war.

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# Keeping the ROK-U.S alliance strong

By Lt. Gen. Charles C. Campbell

**O**ur 8<sup>th</sup> Army mission is to deter aggression against and defend our valued ally, the Republic of Korea. If deterrence fails, then we are prepared to fight and win just as we did 50 years ago. The ROK/U.S. alliance is trained and ready to fight tonight, together, to defeat any aggression, any time.

Our presence here is of paramount importance to stability and peace in this region. That is why we have been here for the last 52 years and why we will remain until our two governments determine otherwise.

We are confident in our warfighting skills, confident in our people and equipment and most of all, confident in the strength of this enduring, battle-tested alliance.

This is my third assignment in this great country, but I will tell you that the South Korea of the 1980's and 90's is amazingly different from Korea today. This is a challenging and fulfilling assignment. Make the most of your tour by training hard and mastering your craft. But also time to explore Korea and learn to appreciate its rich culture and the hospitality of Korean friends.

Change is a function of this dynamic operational environment. We need to understand change and learn to become comfortable with change. We need to know when to "read the hand-writing on the wall." Change is happening all around us and if we don't learn to adapt, we fail in our mission.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. Safety is a command priority and a leadership responsibility. Safety and personal responsibility must be our primary concern. I am charged with ensuring your safety, both on and off duty, while you serve in Korea. You can help by maintaining situational awareness while you are off post, using the buddy system, and avoiding confrontation. You have seen the current rise in demonstrations and protests. Be aware of what is happening around you and plan accordingly.

Report demonstrations and any other perceived threats to other soldiers or to our facilities to your supervisor or to the provost marshal.

Recently we have been the subject of some violent anti-U.S. Sentiments. While I do not condone violence against soldiers or illegal entry into our installations, I do support the Koreans right to exercise their democratic right to free speech.

Sometimes, our Korean hosts and the U.S. forces here will disagree. That's okay. It is natural. We come from different cultural traditions that shape our worldviews. We have seen Korean citizens protest because they are angry at what they perceive to be an injustice regarding the recent courts-martial verdicts on the Highway 56 accident.

What we believe to be a fair and impartial procedure is not viewed the same as the Korean justice system.

The reason for this disparity is that under Korean law, this type of accident is a criminal act, where as under our system, it is not a criminal act unless there is evidence to the contrary. Under American law, a person is assumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, and we define accidents without negligent behavior to be unavoidable and unintentional, regardless of their effects.

Because we see these verdicts so differently, we must exercise extreme decorum and restraint when we are faced with differing opinions. Maintain a positive attitude, try and understand the Korean perspective, and try to understand our cultural differences.

We make our alliance stronger by fostering good relations and cultural appreciation. We have had numerous reports in the media about American service members fostering human trafficking and participating in prostitution. Both of these activities are illegal and may be will be prosecuted by the UCMJ. At all times, you must show respect to our Korean hosts. Avoid off-limits areas. They are off-limits for your own protection.

The contributions of our KATUSA soldiers are considerable. These soldiers are the future leaders of Korean society. I expect you to treat them with dignity and respect. The impressions they form of us, as Americans will last a lifetime, long after you and I have left the ROK. The relationships you build, the feelings you leave behind are the legacy you leave those that



Lt. Gen. Charles C. Campbell  
Commander, 8th U.S. Army

follow in your footsteps.

The KSC also has much to be proud of. These dedicated civilians continue to contribute to military readiness by performing combat service and combat service support functions for USFK and 8<sup>th</sup> army. The KSC trains to be ready for war.

The Korean service corps is a perfect example of how the Korean national populace is integrated into eighth army here on the peninsula.

They are supporting us on a daily basis bases and are true ambassador to both the Korean and Americans that visit and work on U.S installations.

It's about communication. Cross-cultural communication...that is communicating across language barriers and different cultural traditions. It is challenging business to try to understand another culture. But cultural understanding will pay great dividends in terms of mission readiness in the face of any challenges to this great ROK/us alliance.

There is no place for negativity in this command. When someone says there is a problem here is Korea, 'I turn this around...there aren't problems, there are only challenges, and leadership opportunities. These are all opportunities to master our craft, our image, our command, and our partnerships. So, instead of focusing only on the problem, turn those negatives into positives, and help me foster a positive command climate for all of 8<sup>th</sup> United States army.

# Soldiers rewarded for saving Korean's life

by Sgt. Russell C. Bassett  
Staff Writer

A 6<sup>th</sup> Calvary Brigade soldier received the Army's highest award for peace-time heroism for saving a Korean woman's life.

Cpt. David A. DeMartelaere, who was S-4 of 1-43 Air Defense Artillery at the time of the accident, was awarded the Soldier's Medal for helping to rescue Lee, Shin-eh, a Korean national, from her burning car in a Dec. 10, 2000 accident.

Cpt. Edward H. Worthington, commander, headquarters, 6<sup>th</sup> Calvary Brigade, who was with DeMartelaere at the time of the accident, received the Soldier's Medal this summer for his part in the rescue.

Lee and a friend were driving on Route 1 near Osan Air Base when a drunk driver crossed into their lane, causing the two vehicles to collide head on. DeMartelaere and Worthington, who were also driving on the road, stopped to help.

***"Someone was still alive because we heard the sounds of her choking on the smoke. We knew we had to get her out immediately."***

"Right after we stopped, one of the cars just became a big ball of fire," said DeMartelaere. "The other car was smoking from a fire in the engine. "Someone was still alive because we heard the sounds of her choking on the smoke. We knew we had to get her out immediately."

According to DeMartelaere, the two soldiers were unable to break the windshield, so they bent the door in half by ripping down on the top of the door. They were then able to pull Lee from the wreckage.

All three of the other accident victims died on impact.

DeMartelaere, who is currently stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, said that no other vehicles stopped to help the crash victims, but he still doesn't feel like a hero.

"I just did what I thought was necessary for the situation and for saving her life," he said. "My safety wasn't even a consideration, I was just concerned about getting her out of there."

Worthington agreed.

"The biggest thing was getting her out of the burning vehicle," he said. "I knew if we couldn't pull her from the wreckage she was going to burn."

"Receiving the medal was a great honor," Worthington continued. "I just wish it could have been under other circumstances because three people did die."

Col. Ronald M. Buffkin, commander, 6<sup>th</sup> Calvary Brigade, presented DeMartelaere with the medal, which is awarded by the president of the United States, in a ceremony at Suwan Air Base. "It was an honor and privilege to pin a medal on a soldier for heroism," he said.

Buffkin also said he felt the rescue exemplified the U.S. Army's commitment to the Korean people.

"The fact that two U.S. officers would risk their lives for people they didn't know shows their commitment and courage," he said. "If they didn't have an infinity for the people of Korea, they would not have risked their lives."

Lee, who owns a restaurant near Osan, had her legs crushed and suffered several broken ribs in the accident.

After spending five months in the hospital, she is fully recovered and is thankful for her experience with the U.S. military.

"I believe most soldiers are like (DeMartelaere and Worthington), armed with the courage to sacrifice," she said in a statement. "Meeting guardian angels like this will be remembered as a priceless gift. I pray for their happiness and wellbeing."

## Tax centers help put more money in the bank

Tax Center	Returns	\$ Saved*
Area I	2,367	\$208,340
Area II	1,433	\$256,744
Area III	850	\$60,000
Area IV	626	\$56,734

\*Estimates for March 03



# MacArthur Leadership Award winners announced

**Brig. Gen. Timothy P. McHale, deputy commanding general (support), 8th U.S. Army, and Col. William D. Ivey, chief of staff, 8th U.S. Army, congratulate the nominees for the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.**

**Twelve 8th Army company grade officers and six warrant officers were chosen from among their peers based on their overall leadership performance during 2002. Cpt. Gilbert F. Deimel, 2nd Inf. Div. and Warrant Officer Sean W. O'Leary, 6th Cavalry Bde., won the award for 8th Army and will compete against other major command winners for the DA-level MacArthur Award.**



## comes to Korea

by Spc. Carol Cole  
Area I Public Affairs

A program being offered to soldiers stationed at military installations in the United States has now made its way to the Republic of Korea.

"eArmyU is an important investment for the Army," said Maj. Gen. John R. Wood, commander, Second Infantry (Warrior) Division. "It will be a great addition to the education component that supports the Warrior Division."

"By enrolling in this course of study, soldiers will be able to realize their education goals while on active duty," said John McLaurin, deputy assistant secretary for human resources. "This program proves a person does not have to leave the Army to reach their personal educational goals."

eArmyU's mission is to provide high-caliber soldiers the opportunity to obtain post-secondary degrees and professional credentials, regardless of duty station and mission requirement. By providing access to a variety of online programs and related educational services via a comprehensive portal, [www.eArmyU.com](http://www.eArmyU.com), the eArmyU program eliminates many of the barriers soldiers have traditionally faced throughout their military careers when attempting to continue their education.

To be eligible for the program, a soldier must be on active duty status in the regular Army, National Guard, or Reserves.

He must have a high school diploma or GED certificate, and be stationed at Camps Casey, Hovey, Nimble, Mobile, or Castle.

The desiring soldier must also have three years remaining on active duty after enrollment meet selected college admission requirements. The soldier's service record must not be flagged and the company commander must sign a participation agreement. Also, the soldier must pledge to complete 12 semester hours within two years.

According to James H. Campbell, Korea Area I education services officer, the program is great for soldiers in Korea. "This will make getting a degree faster and cheaper with more flexibility in school, course, and major selections."

Twenty-one colleges and universities will provide services to soldiers who participate in eArmyU. Anne Arundel Community College and Central Texas College are two colleges who offer degree programs. Also on the list are universities such as State University of New York, Kansas State University, and Troy State University.

"Seventeen percent of eArmyU participants reenlist into the Army or extend their tour of duty at their current assignment," said McLaurin.

Also, according to McLaurin, more than 400 soldiers presently in Korea registered in the program while at duty assignments in the states and continued their participation here in Korea.

# Strike Thrust :

Story and photos by  
Pvt. Scott Akanewich  
2 ID Public Affairs

One by one, vehicles rolled onto an airfield where soldiers hooked slings resembling giant rubber bands to the top of each one.

This airlift of soldiers, vehicles and equipment to the Twin Bridges training area was part of the 2nd Brigade's Strike Thrust training exercise in January.

Humvees equipped with missile launchers and cargo vehicles were prepared for lift as soldiers busily attended to last-minute details. Nothing can be overlooked as the "hour", or lift-off, approached.

Maj. Craig Jones, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, executive officer, explained the objectives of the exercise.

"Strike Thrust is a dedicated training period focused on company-level training to give commanders the opportunity

**"Strike Thrust is a dedicated training period focused on company-level training to give commanders the opportunity to maneuver their companies."**

to maneuver their companies," said Jones. "The whole focus of Strike Thrust is company-level training."

Moving equipment to the point of attack quickly and efficiently is vital.

"If things don't go smoothly as far as the load goes, the mission is a failure because we won't get to the battlefield," said Sgt. 1st Class Jason Beaton, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 503rd Inf., training and operations noncommissioned officer. "We can be prepared for a mission in two hours."

Capt. David Parkes, 2nd Bde. training and operations

officer, coordinated the aircraft, UH-60 Blackhawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters, and realized the importance of his job.

"The focus is to make sure that all the support for

the 1st Bn., 503rd Inf. is there," said Parkes. "We take care of all the planning at the brigade level so that the battalion can focus on combat."

Parkes also stressed the importance of attention to detail concerning matters such as how much time passes between aircraft and how heavy the loads are.

"There has to be a plan for everything," he said.

Every portion of the operation must take place in a predetermined amount of time for the mission to be a success.

The airlift portion of Strike Thrust took place at a Republic of Korea Army airfield, which provided a realistic environment for the training.

"This was beneficial to everyone involved," said Sgt. John Puls, D Company, 1st Bn., 503rd Inf., squad leader.

"It's a lot better because you get more hands-on training than in the classroom," said Puls. "We have more time here in the field. We can watch each soldier to make sure they're doing it properly."

Strike Thrust employed a total of 10 UH-60 Blackhawks and four CH-47 Chinooks to transport the brigade's equipment to Twin Bridges. A total of five touchdown points were set up on the airfield for the aircraft to pick up their cargo.

A movement of this magnitude is truly a team effort.

"We get everyone involved from the lowest rifleman to the brigade commander," said Jones.

Pvt. Robert McGann, D Co., 1st Bn., 503rd Inf., crewmember, busily worked tying down one of the slings that was used to lift his crew's Humvee, by a Chinook helicopter, requiring two slings.

One sling is placed at the front of the vehicle and one at the rear. Chains are added for stability.

For a Chinook, there must be 80 links in the front and 45 in the rear to balance the load, said McGann.



*Soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade worked busily to secure slings atop their vehicles for airlift by helicopter during*

# *putting soldiers to the test*

While he was intensely doing his job, McGann also eagerly anticipated what was yet to come.

"I'm pretty psyched about it because it'll be my first time on a helicopter," said McGann.

The type of air assets available determine the degree of realism involved in the training, said Staff Sgt. Troy Barth, D Co., 1st Bn., 503rd Inf., section leader.

"When we use Chinooks, we train like we fight," said Barth, "This is due to the CH-47's increased cargo capacity."

Once the soldiers and equipment were in place, the unit conducted a "movement to contact" in which the exact location of the enemy isn't known at the time of movement.

"We move tactically to find the enemy and destroy them," said Jones.

For this particular mission, the objective, once at Twin Bridges, was to secure an area known as a defile. This is a narrow passage between ridgelines where armor and mechanized infantry can't move if there is enemy occupation.

"Our job is to go in and clear the enemy out of the defile," said Jones.

"That's what we do for a standard operation."



*For a humvee to be lifted by a CH-47 Chinook helicopter, two slings are required. There must be 80 links in the front and 45 in the rear of the vehicle to balance the load.*

Another objective of Strike Thrust, according to Jones, was the opportunity it provides for the battalion's young leaders. (see Strike Thrust, Page 18)



*2nd Bde. soldiers attach slings resembling giant rubber bands to vehicles in preparation for airlift.*



# 135th FST conducts joint training

Story and photos by  
**Spc. Lynnette M. Jefferson**  
Assistant editor

The 135th Forward Surgical Team joined up with the Navy Medical Clinic at Chinhae and the 302nd Forward Support Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division in December to practice medical wartime readiness.

This exercise began early in the first week of December.

"We loaded all of our equipment onto rail and shipped it ahead of time down to Pusan," said Maj. Gary D. Fleischer, commander, 135th FST.

"One of the parts of this mission was for us to do some joint training with the Navy," said Fleischer. "So, we integrated with the Emergency Reaction Team down here and spent the whole day teaching classes on trauma management and mass casualty with the Navy."

The exercise also included the military police, fire department and traffic management.

"It was a base-wide exercise for them," said Fleischer. "We were integrated as the medical subject-

**"Whenever the branches get together like this to train in their field, they learn from each other."**

matter experts."

The patients were air evacuated

transported to the base as casualties.

Fleischer said that when the patient's arrived, they were triaged.

"We'll operate on them, recover them and send them back," he said. "The Navy returns them to the air base and from there, they go to 121st General Hospital."

Because only six to eight patients could be recovered at a time, it was important that once the patient's were recovered, they be shipped out by medevac, explained Fleischer.

"The 135th FST is dependent on the medevacs."

Fleischer said that they used integrated training throughout the exercise as well as other exercises they've conducted.

The exercise, alone, included elements of 18th Medical Command, 25th Transportation Battalion, 17th Aviation Brigade, Korean National Railroad and the Republic of Korea Navy.

According to Fleischer, the training was integrated by the Navy and the facilities were provided by the Fleet.

The Navy has been amazingly hospitable," he said.

Fleischer said the training



**Maj. Gary D. Fleischer (Left), 135th Field Surgical Team and Navy Lt. Christopher A. Orsello (Right) perform an upper extremity surgery.**



**Maj. Gary D. Fleischer checks on his patient, Pfc. Patrick A. Ready, C Company, 304th Signal Battalion, in the Recovery Room. Fleischer goes over post-operative information with Ready.**





**Before surgery, the triage room is the first stop for Pfc. Patrick A. Ready, C Company, 304th Signal Battalion.**

opportunity was outstanding for everyone.

“Not only were the 135th FST and the Navy able to work together, but also the 302nd FSB, from 2nd Infantry Division was able to participate,” he said. “We support them in the field and this was an opportunity for us to train them.”

Ray C. Antoine, chief nurse, 135th FST said that everyone on their team was proficient in their medical skills.

“This is not a test of our clinical skills,” he said. It’s getting all of those pieces together and seeing how they work together.”

Combat medic Pvt. Traci L. Schrader, C Company 302nd FSB, 2nd Infantry Division, said she really enjoyed the exercise.

“This training has been high speed and we learned so much,” she said. “I’ve also seen the importance of working together with the same people on a team.”

Navy Lt. Christopher A. Orsello, family practitioner, Branch Medical Clinic Chinhae, said the training exercise helped to strengthen his team and the 135th FST.

“This has been an outstanding joint exercise experience,” he said. “Whenever the branches get together like this to train in their field, they learn from each other.”

There is always new knowledge that comes from the support that they need, he added. “It’s been a great, experience to train together.”



**Members from the triage room take the proper steps to prepare Pfc. Patrick A. Ready, C Company, 304th Signal Battalion for his surgery.**

# New Horizons Day

## Strengthening the ROK/U.S. alliance by educating soldiers

by Spc. Lynnette M. Jefferson  
*Assistant Editor*

The Eighth U.S. Army held its second stand-down dubbed New Horizons Day in order to teach, educate and inform soldiers about the unifying principles that will help to ensure mission readiness, training safety, and foster good relations with the people of the Republic of Korea.

Training and briefings were recently conducted for all 8<sup>th</sup> Army soldiers stationed on the peninsula. Topics discussed were sustaining the Republic of Korea/U.S. alliance, making Korea the assignment of choice, individual soldiers' and leaders' responsibilities for making USFK/ROK relations better, and training safety and risk management.

"I have ordered soldiers and civilians throughout the command to stand-down and conduct our second New Horizons Day. Our mission is to deter aggression and, if deterrence fails, defend the Republic of Korea. Everyday, we must be prepared to fight and win, just as we did 50 years ago. The ROK/US alliance is trained and ready to fight tonight together, Katchi Kapshida, and defeat any aggression at any time," said Lt. Gen. Charles C. Campbell, commander, 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army.

Campbell also told soldiers of the importance of being in a safety-conscious changing environment.

"The thing of today's New Horizon's Day is understanding the changing operational environment," said Campbell. "Change is happening all around us and we must anticipate and adapt to it. The stand-down is also to talk about safety. Safety is everyone's responsibility."

Col. William D. Ivey, chief of staff, 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army, also stressed the importance of safety.

"Every soldier and civilian is a safety officer," he said. "If you see an unsafe act happening or about to happen, then get a hold of someone who has the ability to stop it."

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Lander C. Reyna, equal opportunity advisor, 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Troop Command, discussed changes and attitudes.

"They definitely have an impact on everyone. These things, change and attitude, affect everyone."

Reyna said the classes show you how to recognize an attitude, take

***"The relationships you build, the things you leave behind, are the legacy you leave to those who follow in your footsteps."***

responsibility for your attitude, and help other team members diagnose an attitude.

"Soldiers must clarify their values and how their values incorporate with the team's values and the organization's values. Think about something positive about the organization, about change," she said.

The Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army (KATUSAs) were recognized. "These soldiers are the future leaders of Korean society," Campbell said. "The impression you form on them will last a lifetime. The relationships you build, the things you leave behind, are the legacy you leave to those who follow in your footsteps."

Ivey also discussed the importance of good relations with the KATUSA soldiers.

"The KATUSAs are absolutely vital to our ability to accomplish our mission on a day-to-day basis. They are an asset that we need to make sure we use," he said. "Their perceptions of Americans are probably formed during their two years as KATUSAs. If they leave here with a positive attitude, you have made a friend for America," he said.

The Korean Services Corps Battalion was also acknowledged. "These personnel are part of our team and part of our Korean national work force," said Campbell. "During the Korean War, the KSC played a vital role in providing combat service support to the United Nations Command and to the Republic of Korea Army.

"Today the KSC has much to be proud of. These dedicated civilians continue to contribute to military readiness by performing combat service and combat service support functions to USFK and 8<sup>th</sup> Army. In addition to their armistice mission, the KSC trains to be ready for war," Campbell said. "The Korean Service Corps...it's a perfect example of how the Korean national populace has innovated into 8<sup>th</sup> Army here on the peninsula."

Campbell also stressed the importance of communication and cultural awareness.

"New Horizons Day is about communication. Cross-cultural communication. That is, communication across language barriers and different cultural traditions. This New Horizons Day program is important to all of us," said Campbell.





A Korean Combined Aviation Force unit raises its flags during the Combined Aviation Force change of command ceremony on Monday. HHC, 17th Aviation, participated in the event.

# Standing strong ... together

## *17th Aviation Brigade supports Combined Aviation Force in Korea*

by **Sgt. Russell C. Bassett**  
Staff Writer

There are many great things about being a U.S. soldier stationed in Korea. Not least among them is the opportunity to work with Republic of Korea soldiers. One unit here in Korea gets that opportunity on a regular basis.

The 17th Aviation Brigade is part of the Korean/U.S. Combined Aviation Force, and the unit was invited to the CAF's commanding general change of command ceremony in Incheon, south of Seoul.

The event marked the first time a major U.S. Army unit has participated in a ROK Army change of command.

"This is an honor for us to participate in this," said 17th Aviation's command sergeant major, Daniel F. Creed. "It strengthens our bond and friendship."

Col. Anne Macdonald, commander, 17th Aviation Brigade, agreed.

"I thought it was a tremendous opportunity to show our commitment to U.S./ROK alliance," she said. "We wanted to show our support of the team; that we are there and that they can count on us."

The 17th Aviation Brigade soldiers are no strangers to working with their ROK counterparts. The unit participates in training and activities with ROK CAF units on a regular basis.

According to Creed, the unit works hand and hand with the ROK Army during several exercises, including simulated battles, air-assault training and pathfinder training.

17th Aviation not only works hard with their ROK counterparts, but also plays hard.

"They have been gracious in including us, not only in exercises, but also in sports days, dinners and different functions," said Macdonald. The unit's soldiers seem to really enjoy the relationship.

"We work with the ROK pathfinders," said Sgt. George J. Bruce, pathfinder team leader. "The ROK soldiers I have worked with were pretty outstanding. They have a dedicated work ethic and are very eager to learn about their jobs and soldiering."

"(During exercises) we work as partners with the ROK communications guys," said Spc. Keith R. Pervine, communications specialist. "There is a ROK lieutenant and three enlisted that work with us, and we all work together to make sure that commo is strait."

"The ROK soldiers work hard and they know their job well. At times it seems that they are even a little stricter than our Army is. They know their job and work hard to make sure everything is done right," Pervine added.

Macdonald, who is the first-ever female aviation brigade commander, had nothing but positive things to say about her ROK counterparts. "The ROK officers are great. They are motivated, interested and enthusiastic," she said. "They are interested in who we are and how we do business and how they can do their business better."

Creed, who has been in Korea for over five years, speaks highly of the relationship his unit has fostered with the ROK Army. "Whenever we come down here they treat us like gold," he said. "There is a strong bond and friendship between our units and that's what makes this Combined Aviation Force such a great force, because it is such a strong team."

Macdonald agreed with her sergeant major. "It is a total commitment," she said. "It is a professional relationship and friendship. Because of that friendship they know they can count on us and we can count on them."

The members of 17th Aviation and their ROK counterparts in the CAF seem to understand that "*katchi kapshida*."







# Remembering the Forgotten War

*During the annual AUSA meeting in Washington D.C., Korean corporate members of AUSA and 8th U.S. Army visited the Korean War Veterans Memorial.*

*Top left: Cpl. Yum, San-hoon (left), 8th U.S. Army KATUSA of the Year and Spc. Kevin M. Murphy, 8th U.S. Army Soldier of the Year place the dedication wreath at the Korean War Memorial. Top right: Nineteen stainless steel statues represent servicemembers who fought in the Korean War. There are 14 Army soldiers, three Marines, one Navy Medic and one Air Force Forward Air Observer. Bottom center: Brig. Gen. Philip D. Coker (right), ADC(M), 2nd Infantry Division and corporate members of the Korean Chapter of AUSA dedicate a wreath in memory of those who fought in the war. Bottom left: The highly polished surface of the wall of faces reflects all 19 soldiers producing a total of 38 figures.*





# Remembering

# The Sacrifices



By Spc. Lynnette M. Jefferson  
Assistant Editor



*The poncho on the statue, shows the weather that servicemembers faced during the Korean War. The use of Juniper bushes in the field showed the rugged terrain that each servicemember met while fighting for freedom in Korea. Granite slabs, located in front of each statue, represent obstacles that had to be overcome.*



A reunion tour offered by the Korea Travel Bureau in cooperation with the Korea National Tourism Organization, enables soldiers to bring their family members to Korea for a visit at a discounted rate.

The tour is offered in April, May, September and October and gives family members the opportunity to visit Panmunjom, Changdok Palace, Kyongju and Korean Folk Village.

For 2nd Lt. Deana M. DelPorto, operations officer, 552nd Signal Company, the tour was a perfect opportunity to visit her mother and aunt.

"The reunion tour was the first time I had seen my family in nine-and-a-half months," said DelPorto. "There isn't quite a word to describe how excited I was to see my mom. I had been waiting almost 10 months for a big hug."

DelPorto said she enjoyed having the opportunity to show her family the country and people that she had been living and working with for the past year.

"Through my time in Korea, I have developed a deep appreciation for the people and the country," she said. "I do not think I could have relayed this to my family if I had not had the opportunity to bring them over here."

Kyongju City was DelPorto's favorite part of the tour.

"I had not been south of Seoul yet, so the reunion tour gave me the opportunity to see the 'museum without walls.' It was a beautiful city and I learned a lot," said DelPorto. "I can't go without mentioning the amazing food. It was delicious."

Not only was DelPorto's family able to experience the Korean culture, they were also able to visit Hong Kong.

"The first week my family was in Korea, we went to Hong Kong, which was my first time out of Korea since December 2001," she said. "We used the option with the reunion tour to have them come over early."

DelPorto's mother also got to see where her daughter worked and lived.

"The last weekend after the reunion ended, I brought my mom up to Camp Red Cloud to show her where I work, my company and the surrounding city of Uijongbu," said DelPorto.

DelPorto's mother, Beverly DelPorto was just as impressed with



**2nd Lt. Deana M. DelPorto (Left), her mother, Beverly DelPorto, have their photo taken at the Welcome Banquet that**

# Reunion

## Bringing Toge



**Spc. Lynnette M. Jefferson**

**Left: The Korean Folk Village is another part of the Family Reunion Tour. Visitors receive a guided tour, where they can learn about Korea's history.**



Courtesy Photo

ly Hurst (Center) and her aunt, Gail Nuber (Right) stop to  
kicked off the family reunion tour in September.

# in Korea

## Families

## ther

by Spc. Lynnette M. Jefferson  
Assistant Editor

*Right: Traditional  
Korean dancers perform  
for a crowd at the  
Korean Folk Village  
during a recent Reunion  
tour.*



Sgt. Russell C. Bassett

the tour as her daughter.

"Korea was a wonderful experience and it was very interesting seeing how other cultures live day to day. Spending two weeks with Deana was priceless," she said. "The meals were very good and it was especially nice to have the wide array to choose from and try for the first time."

DelPorto's mother's favorite part of the tour was the Demilitarized Zone, but she also enjoyed the temples, which she said were fun and very educational.

In addition, she and her sister were able to experience the markets in Seoul.

"A once-in-a-life-time, I will never forget this experience," she said.

Jerry R. Hurst, U.S. Army Major, retired, and his wife, Melba S. Hurst, had the opportunity to visit their son, Sgt. Stephen Hurst, training noncommissioned officer, 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion.

"We had a great time," said Hurst. The support was first class."

Hurst said they were amazed how much Seoul had grown since their tour in Korea over 25 years ago.

"The small villages that we remembered from our previous tour are major metropolitan cities," he said. "My wife thoroughly enjoys shopping at the various markets."

Hurst's father said it was great to see his son.

"We had plenty of time to visit with him as part of the tour," he said. "We were able to spend five additional days with him at Camp Humphreys."

Hurst's father said that the hotels were outstanding and the meals were excellent.

"We enjoyed the variety, particularly the Korean dishes."

Hurst's favorite part of the tour was the DMZ. He also enjoyed the Korean War Memorial Museum, a tour he and his family did on their own.

"We spent two full days touring the museum," Hurst said. "It tells a wonderful story and I think every military person and their family would enjoy seeing the museum. It is one of the best museums we have ever visited; probably the best."

Hurst said it was a good experience having his family come to Korea.



“Especially for my father who was stationed at Zoeckler Station 26 years ago,” he said. “It was interesting to see what was here when he was here.”

Reunion dates for 2003 are: April 14-18, May 19-23, Sept. 22-26 and Oct. 13-17. Soldiers often wish to accompany their families on the tour and they may attend the guided tour with family members for a pre-determined fee.

Family members have the option of purchasing a discounted air ticket, hotel accommodations/tour or both. In addition, family members have the option of coming to Korea early or staying after the tour, if they pay hotel accommodations.

The packages include round-trip economy-class air transportation and deluxe-class hotel accommodations. All regular meals are included. In addition, bus transportation to tour locations and admission fees are included. Three and five day packages are available. For year 2002, packages ranged between \$680 and \$1,290.

Applications from family members are accepted on a first-received, first reserved basis. They also require a sponsor's signature. All applications can be submitted via fax, priority/first



**Above: A traditional Korean drum circle is just one of the many attractions that is a part of the tour. Below: Inner chambers of the Pulkaska temple.**

class mail, or in person at the reunion office. Applications can be faxed to DSN 723-4684. The reunion office is located next to the Moyer Community Center, by the Yongsan Buss Terminal.

For additional information on family reunion tours, contact the Reunion Desk at DSN 723-3474 (011-82-2-7913-3474 stateside) or the Reunion Coordinator, Mr. George Kim at DSN 723-6085 (011-82-2-7913-6085). Interested individuals can also inquire by email at [King@usfk.korea.army.mil](mailto:King@usfk.korea.army.mil) or [reunion@ktbinc.co.kr](mailto:reunion@ktbinc.co.kr). For more information on the web, go to USFK's

website, <http://www.korea.army.mil/pao/cr/cr.htm>.



## Strike Thrust

from page 7

“The only way to become proficient at command and control for junior leaders is to get out and do it for real,” he said. This group includes platoon leaders, platoon sergeants and squad leaders, said Jones.

Jones ensured that his soldiers are taken care of while in the field. “If a soldier knows that a truck is going to roll up with a dry uniform and hot coffee, his morale will be better,” he said.

Finally, Parkes noted the dedication of his soldiers in the event of a cancellation due to weather.

“The soldiers are willing to come right back out the next day because it's their job and they're good at it,” he said.

Due to hard work and dedication, Parkes said the ultimate objective was reached.

“We're ready to fight as soon as we hit the ground.”



Courtesy Photo

EVENT	DATE	PLACE	SPONSOR
Arbor Day Celebration	5 April		USO
9-Ball Pool Tournament	12-13 April	Camp Carroll	MWR/KORO
KORO BOSS Seminar	29 April - 2 May	Yongsan	KORO BOSS
Marathon	3 May	Camp Casey	8th Army Sports
Volleyball	7-10 May	Camp Walker	8th Army Sports
Volleyball (Co-Ed)	14-17 May	Camp Hialeah	8th Army Sports
Mt. Jiri Tour	24-26 May		USO
Fashion Bash	31 May	Yongsan	KORO BOSS
Community Fun Fair	TBA		USFK
Mountain Climbing in Northern Seoul	TBA		USO
Sea Power Day	TBA		AKW
Cross Cultural School	TBA		USO
Who Let the Dogs Out	TBA		USO

## POINTS OF CONTACT

Organization	Name	Number (DSN)
8th Army Sports	Tom Higgins	725-5064
KORO MWR and BOSS	Diana Fredlund	725-7226
MWR Area I	Virginia Martin-Brown	732-7050
MWR Area II	Thomas Bruce	738-4058
MWR Area III	Mark Mooney	753-8257
MWR Area IV	Laural Baek	768-7563
USO	Jerry Brenot	724-7781/3307/7003



# Final Frame



Officers of the 8th U.S. Army staff participate in log PT at Yongsan Garrison

by Sgt. Carmen Burgess, 34th ASG PAO